

MEDFORD BOARD OF HEALTH

Regulation 6: Dumpster Regulations/Licensing of Dumpsters

6.1 AUTHORITY

These regulations are shall be effective on and after the publication date and shall remain so until modified or amended by the City of Medford Board of Health. They are enacted under authority which includes, but is not limited to, Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 111, Section 31, and 31B, 310 CMR (Code of Massachusetts Regulations) 11.02, and 310 CMR 19.00 et seq.. Board of Health regulations are an exercise of power under which the various levels of government are responsible for protection of the public health, safety, welfare, and the environment.

6.2 PURPOSE

These regulations of the Board of Health have been enacted for the purpose of the protection of the citizens of the City of Medford and also the protection of the public health and the environment.

6.3 DEFINITIONS

ABUTTER means the owner of land sharing a common boundary or corner with the site of the proposed activity in any direction, including, but not limited to, land located directly across a street, way, creek, river, stream, brook, or canal.

ADJACENT AREA means a parcel of land contiguous to a site or in close enough proximity to be directly impacted by water, air or soil borne pollutants, not exceeding a ½ mile radius from the site.

ADVERSE IMPACT means an injurious impact which is significant in relation to the public health, safety, or environmental interest being protected.

BOARD OF HEALTH means the legally designated health authority of the city , town or other legally constituted governmental unit within the Commonwealth having the usual powers and duties of the board of health of a city or town, or its authorized agent or representative; provided, that in any case in which a waste disposal facility extends into the geographic areas of two or more boards of health, said boards may coordinate activities in effecting compliance with 310 CMR 19.000 for the management of solid waste.

CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTE means the waste building materials and rubble resulting from the construction , remodeling, repair or demolition of buildings, pavements, roads or other structures, Construction and demolition waste includes but is not limited to, concrete, bricks, lumber, masonry, road paving, materials, rebar, and plaster. They may not have paint or be impregnated with any substance. The rubble shall not be mixed with or contaminated by any other wastes or debris.

DUMSPTER means containers designed for receiving, transporting, and dumping waste materials.

FACILITY means an established site or works, and other appurtenances thereto, which is, has been or will be used for the handling, storage, transfer, processing, treatment, or disposal of solid waste including all land, structures, and improvements which are directly related to solid waste activities.

FOOD MATERIAL means source separated material produced from human food preparation and consumption activities at homes, restaurants, cafeterias, or dining halls which consists of fruits, vegetables, and grains, fish and animal products and byproducts, and soiled paper unsuitable for recycling.

HAZADOUS WASTE shall mean any waste that is defined and regulated under 310 CMR 30.00 INFECTIOUS WASTE MEANS “Infectious Waste or Physically Dangerous Medical or Biological Waste” as defined in 105 CMR 480.000, Department of Public Health, State Sanitary Code and includes: blood and blood products; pathological waste; cultures and stocks of infectious agents, and associated biologicals; contaminated animal carcasses, body parts, and bedding; sharps; and biotechnological by-product effluents.

RECYCLABLES shall mean a material that is banned from disposal in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts pursuant to 310 CMR 19.017: Waste Bans. Mixed paper, cardboard, glass, metal, and plastic containers are priority materials of this regulation.

PERMIT HOLDER shall mean any person (s) or company which has applied for and obtained the appropriate permit to collect and transport solid waste within the limits of the City of Medford.

PERSON(S) means any individual, partnership, association, firm, company, corporation, department, agency, group, public body (including a city, town, district, county, authority, state, federal, or other governmental unit) or any other entity responsible in any way for an activity subject to 310 CMR 16.00, but not including an agency of the Commonwealth.

SOLID WASTE OR WASTE means useless, unwanted, or discarded non-recyclable solid and liquid wastes, excluding items restricted from disposal in Massachusetts, as defined by Table 310 CMR 19.017 (3) of the Massachusetts’ Solid Waste regulations (310 CMR 19.017).

STORAGE means the temporary containment of solid waste or compostable or recyclable materials in a manner which does not constitute disposal.

TRANSFER STATION means a handling facility where solid waste is brought, stored, and transferred from one vehicle or container to another vehicle or contained for transport off-site to a solid waste treatment, processing, or disposal facility.

6.4 GENERAL

All dumpsters (temporary and permanent) must be permitted by the Medford Board of Health. The Board has the right and authority to ensure that dumpster placement and management is neither a nuisance to abutters or a danger to public health. Any persons or firms engaged in the collection and transportation of solid waste and/or recyclables shall be a permitted from the Medford Board of Health. The solid waste shall be removed to an approved location or facility in accordance with these rules and regulations, as well as all other applicable rules and regulations.

6.5 PERMITTING PROCEDURE

- a) All persons in the possession of a dumpster shall obtain a permit from the Board of Health prior to placement of the dumpster.
- b) At the time of application or as otherwise specified, the permit holder shall submit to the Board of Health the following information:
 - 1. A completed application form.
 - 2. A non-refundable application fee of \$50.00 for a temporary permit or \$100.00 for an annual permit must accompany the application.
- c) The Permit Holder is allowed the right to appear before the City of Medford Board of Health at a hearing to discuss its application by filing such hearing request in writing with the Board.
- d) Permits are not transferable.
- e) Transfer stations are not allowed in the City of Medford without approval of the Board of Health and permitting from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, This includes full dumpsters awaiting transport to incinerators or landfills.

6.7 FEES

The Medford Board of Health sets the permit fee at their discretion. The non-refundable permit fee must accompany the application. The fee is \$50.00 per dumpster for temporary (30 days) or \$100.00 per annual dumpsters.

6.8 OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

- a) The annual permit will be valid for a period of not more than one (1) year, renewable annually on the first day of April, subject to review and approval by the Board of Health.
- b) No permit shall be transferable .
- c) It is the responsibility of the customer, (commercial/industrial, municipal, and residential) not the town, to dispose of recyclables materials currently not accepted as part of the town's recycling program in a proper fashion.

- d) The Permit Holder shall take all reasonable care in the collection of refuse. Refuse shall not be scattered about the streets or onto private property. Refuse, which is spilled, shall be immediately picked up by the Permit Holder and removed with other wastes.
- e) The Board of Health reserves the right to inspect collection vehicles and loads at reasonable times in order to ensure that they comply with all applicable state and local laws, by-laws, and regulations.
- f) Any violation of these regulations or any other applicable laws or regulations by the Permit Holder will be grounds for suspension, modification, or revocation of said permit..
- g) The individuals empowered to enforce the provision of these regulations shall be the Agent of the Board of Health, any member of the Board of Health.

6.9 DUMPSTER MANAGEMENT

- a) Each dumpster must be located at a distance from the lot line as not to interfere with the safety, convenience or health of abutters or residents. Dumpster locations must be approved by the Board of Health.
- b) Each dumpster must be situated so as not to obstruct the flow of traffic.
- c) When deemed necessary by the Board of Health, it may be required that a dumpster site be enclosed or screened by the property owners or authorized agent.
- d) Dumpster is not to be filled between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. in residentially zoned areas nor after the close of the business day for all types of business properties. All lids are to be closed and locked when dumpster is not in use.
- e) Each dumpster must be of sufficient size and capacity to eliminate overflowing. Routine weekly scheduled pickups shall be mandatory for apartment buildings.
- f) The property owners, tenant, occupant, or authorized agent of the premises utilizing the services must notify the contractor at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance for an additional call-in for pickup which may be necessary to prevent overflowing.
- g) Whenever and for whatever reasons deemed necessary including repeated violations, the Board of Health may order dumpster capacity size changes and/or additional pickups.
- h) The property owner, tenant, occupant, or agent utilizing a dumpster service must make known to the Board of Health the name and telephone number of person responsible for maintaining the dumpster and dumpster area and notifying contractor to empty contents when full. Any changes in name of person (s) shall be reported to the Board of Health, forthwith.

- i) It shall be the responsibility of the property owner, tenant, occupant, or agent being serviced to maintain the dumpster and dumpster area free of all nuisances including but not limited to flies, insects, scattered debris, and overflowing conditions.
- j) The property owner, tenant, occupant, or other authorized agent responsible for maintaining the dumpster service is required to have a permit from the Board of Health for each dumpster per City of Medford Board of Health Regulation 6.
- k) Contractor shall have his/her, or its name and telephone number conspicuously displayed on the dumpster.
- l) No Contractor shall remove dumpster contents prior to 7:00 a.m. nor later than 8:00 p.m.
- m) Temporary dumpster permit (roll-off or gondola type) will be issued to a property owner, tenant, occupant, or authorized agent for a period of time not to exceed 30 days in connection with construction, demolition, fairs, carnivals or for other similar temporary needs. Said permits may be renewed for an additional 30 days period upon application. The property owner, tenant, occupant, or authorized agent shall comply with all the provisions of these regulations which are applicable to the operator of the dumpster. There shall be a fee of \$50.00 payable for each temporary dumpster permit. Permanent or long-term use dumpsters fee is \$100.00, renewed every April 1st. No dumpster may be placed on the city streets without first obtaining permission from the Department of Public Works.
- n) The dumpster Contractor shall have the dumpster deodorized when emptied or if necessary, washed, steamed, or sanitized as directed by order of the Board of Health.
- o) The Contractor shall not cause nor allow spillage during removal or transportation of any garbage, rubbish, or other offensive substance.
- p) Permanent Requirements of Integrated Pest Management Plans.

All permits issued by the Health Department for dumpsters on residential and commercial property will be subject to a separate fee designated for rodent control. Such fees are to be set by the Medford City Council and reviewed every three (3) years. Dumpsters associated with building projects for which the building permit rodent control fee has been assessed are exempt from this additional fee.

In addition to the fee required above, dumpster permits will require the implementation of an Integrated Pest Management Plan as a condition of the permit. IPM Plans must be submitted to the Health Department and updated annually before a permit is issued by the Health Department.

Responsibility for pest prevention and management remains with the PERMIT HOLDER, even when a commercial service is part of the permit holder's IPM program. Requirements under the Rodent Control Ordinance 858 must include:

1. Names and certifications of licensed pest control operators. An Initial survey by a licensed pest control operator documenting presence or absence of rodent activity, burrows, and sanitation conditions that could support rodent activity on the site and accessible public areas adjacent to the site.
2. Detailing about rodent control measures to be implemented on the site, including locations of traps and bait stations, types and amounts of pesticides used, scheduled for follow-up monitoring, cleanup of bait stations and rodent carcasses, staff training and notification procedures, and management of sources of food, water, and harborage on the site, including vegetation management.
3. Procedures for responding to rodent complaints associated with the site, including name and contact information for management-level individual to respond to complaints.
4. There shall be an annual fee of \$50.00 per dumpster for Rodent Control.
5. Failure to submit required information and fee will be subject to a \$10.00 late fee per day.

6.10 SUSPENSION, MODIFICATION OR REVOCATION OF PERMITS

a) Any permit may be suspended, modified, or revoked by the Board of Health upon receipt of evidence satisfactory to the Board that the Permit Holder has not conformed to the requirements of these regulations, or to any applicable state or federal statute, regulation, rule or order regarding the collection, transportation, or disposal of solid waste. In the event the Board of Health, agents, servants, or employees deem that the health, safety or welfare of the occupants or residents of the City of Medford is jeopardized, and that any emergency exists, it may order all dumping terminated, and the dumpster removed, pending hearing. The Permit Holder will receive three days written notice, sent by certified, registered mail or constable service, to the last known address of the alleged violator, notifying them of permit suspension, revocation, or modification by the Board of Health, its agents, servants or employees for the failure of the dumpster contractor, owner, tenant, occupant, or agent to comply with the conditions and requirements for these regulations; and the dumpster may be ordered to be removed.

b) Appeals of such suspensions, modification or revocations may be directed in writing to the Board of Health within ten (10) business days of said suspensions, modification, or revocation.

6.11 FINES and PENALTIES

a) Any person whether contractor, owner, tenant, occupant, or agent being serviced or other person or company who shall violate any provision of these regulations, and upon written notification by the Board of Health does not comply with the order or causes or allows repeated violations shall be punished by a fine.

These regulations may be enforced by the Medford Board of Health through Ticket Enforcement under M.G.L. c. 40 s 21D:

Fine Schedule:

First offense, fifty dollars (\$50.00)

Second offense, one hundred dollars (\$100.00)

Third and subsequent offenses, two hundred dollars (\$200.00) but not more than One thousand dollars (\$1000.00), with each day constituting a separate violation.

6.12 SEVERABILITY

a) Each of these regulations shall be construed as separate to the end that, if any regulations, clause, or phrase thereof, should be held invalid for any reason, the remainder of the regulations and all other regulations shall continue to be in force.

Adopted by Board of Health at its meeting held on June 5, 1985

Published in Medford Daily Mercury on July 12, 1985

Fee Increased: February 12, 2002

Revised and Adopted: May 11, 2004

Published in the Medford Transcript: June 17, 2004

Revised and Adopted: September 19, 2023

Published in The Transcript & Journal on October 5, 2023